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ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE B-14

NEW YORK TIMES  
6 June 1985

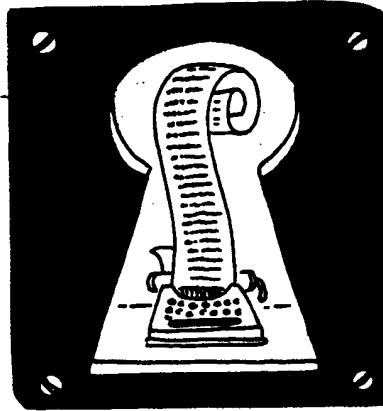
## Lexicon

The current Navy spy scandal, involving what officials say is perhaps the largest American spy ring working for the Soviet Union in 30 years, serves as a reminder not only that espionage is an arcane business but also that the language of espionage is equally arcane.

Herewith a lexicon to help clear up some of the confusion, linguistically speaking:

**Case officer** — A foreign intelligence officer whose job is to recruit people who have access to classified information and then manage their activities after they become spies.

**Working your cover** — Most case officers have a seemingly legitimate job as a front, perhaps as an embassy officer. "Working the cover" means making a public show of doing the work that is associated with the legiti-



mate job.

**Running agents** — The case officer's secret job: managing those peo-

ple who are serving as his spies.

**Walk in** — A person who decides to sell classified material to a foreign government and simply shows up at an embassy or other office.

**Double agent** — An agent who pretends to be working for a foreign case officer but actually is feeding him false information on the instructions of his own government.

**Dead drop** — A pre-arranged, clandestine location where an agent can leave material for his case officer.

**Co-optee** — An agent, perhaps an émigré, who is coerced against his will to work for a case officer.

**Hum-int** — Intelligence shorthand for the whole field of trying to acquire information using agents. Short for "human intelligence."

Joel Brinkley

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